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NEWS

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Rear Adm. Brewer to announce CNET Shore Sailor of the Year

PENSACOLA, Fla.—On Thursday, April 8, 1999, Rear Adm. David L. Brewer, III, Vice Chief of Naval Education and Training, will announce the 1999 CNET Shore Sailor of the Year at a ceremony honoring Military Members of the Year. The ceremony will be held at 7:00 p.m. at Lighthouse Point, on board Naval Air Station, Pensacola, Fla.

The Sailor of the Year program recognizes the best all-around Sailors in paygrades E-6 and below. The seven nominees will be judged on their sustained superior performance in leadership, technical proficiency, motivation, participation in community affairs, and other noteworthy achievements.

The seven finalists for the CNET Shore Sailor of the Year include two Sailors stationed at local area commands. Petty Officer 1st Class Brian DeRitter, from the Navy Flight Demonstration Squadron, and Petty Officer 1st Class Charles E. Sager III, from the Naval Technical Training Center, Corry Station, join the five other nominees.

The CNET Shore Sailor of the Year will compete with other Shore Sailors of the Year for the Navy Shore Sailor of the Year, which will be announced by the Chief of Naval Operations, Washington, D.C., in May 1999.

The following is information on the seven nominees for CNET Shore Sailor of the Year:

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CNET Shore Sailor of the Year Nominees 2/2/2

Petty Officer 1st Class Don Barnes, a Submarine Sonar Technician (Sub-Surface) representing Naval Submarine School, Groton, Conn., is the Leading Petty Officer and Lead Instructor for Sonar Technician Submarine (STS) "A" School. Barnes, a native of Palmdale, Calif., joined the Navy in December 1984. He was praised by the Commander, Submarine Forces Pacific Tactical Readiness Examination Team members for outstanding managerial and leadership skills contributing to the operation and administration of STS "A" school. Barnes has achieved the designation as a Master Training Specialist, and is directly responsible for implementing the Interactive Multisensor Analysis Trainer (IMAT) into STS "A" School. The implementation of this program has resulted in presentation of 20% more material, and has shortened the course by two weeks. In the community he has served as Coordinator for the Twelfth Annual Navy League of the United States Toys for Children Campaign, which raised more than \$57,000 in toys. He also participates in the command's Habitat for Humanity program.

Petty Officer 1st Class Sarah G. B. Butler, a native of Flint, Mich., joined the Navy in May 1989. An Aviation Structural Mechanic (Air Warfare/ Aircrewman) representing Naval Air Maintenance Training Group, Jacksonville Fla. She serves as a P-3 Airframe Course Instructor. Butler was selected as the command's nominee for the Admiral Claude V. Ricketts Award for her inspirational leadership. She was selected to conduct P-3 Airframe Familiarization for 76 Officers and Midshipmen, and nine allied officers from Argentina and the Netherlands. Butler is qualified in four airframes maintenance courses and is the subject matter expert for P-3 airframes maintenance. She volunteers her free time as a math tutor at S. Bryan Jennings Elementary school, and has participated in the American Red Cross Swim-A-Thon.

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CNET Shore Sailor of the Year Nominees 3/3/3

Petty Officer 1st Class Brian Lee DeRitter, an Aviation Structural Mechanic (Air Warfare) representing the Chief of Naval Air Training, is the Quality Assurance Leading Petty Officer at the Navy Flight Demonstration Squadron (Blue Angels), Pensacola, Fla. A native of Portsmouth, Va., DeRitter joined the Navy in August 1985. In addition to being selected as the Sailor of the Quarter for the Navy Flight Demonstration Squadron, he was the 1991 Top-Gun Sailor of the Year.

DeRitter was involved in the implementation of the latest change to the Naval Aviation Maintenance Program inspection checklist. He also traveled to fifteen show sites across the country, and was deployed for 130 days, including an intensive winter training period at Naval Air Facility, El Centro, Calif. He volunteers his free time as a Blue Angel guest speaker at numerous schools and hospitals across the country, supporting a “Drug Free” community. He has also been a bi-annual blood donor for the American Red Cross since January 1994.

Petty Officer 1st Class Marcus A. Devine, a native of Inglewood, Calif., joined the Navy in August 1990. He is a Fire Controlman (Surface Warfare/ Air Warfare), representing the Fleet Combat Training Center Atlantic (FCTCLANT), Virginia Beach, Va.. He has been a model for other Sailors, scoring excellent or outstanding on his last four Physical Readiness Tests, as well as teaching Navy Military Training (NMT), Core Values, and Navy Rights and Responsibilities to his fellow Sailors. Devine was requested by the FCTCLANT Curriculum Instructional Standards Office (CISO) to teach the Authoring Instructional Materials (AIM) software to other curriculum developers within the command. He volunteer’s his off-duty time as a Historical Interpreter/ Docent at the Mariner’s Museum in Newport News, Va.

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CNET Shore Sailor of the Year Nominees 4/4/4

Petty Officer 1st Class Charles E. Sager III, a native of Indianapolis, Ind., joined the Navy in May 1983. Sager is an Aviation Electronics Technician (Air Warfare/ Aircrewman) representing the Naval Technical Training Center (NTTC), Corry Station, Pensacola, Fla., and is the Division Leading Petty Officer for the Enlisted Aviation Electronic Warfare Intelligence Course, and a Course Manager/Curriculum Developer for the Aviation Electronic Warfare Intelligence Operator (AVEWOP) course. He has directed operation and maintenance of a 270-hour AVEWOP course and a \$3,000,000 dollar Mission Avionics System Trainer (MAST). Sager has been certified to teach all areas of the AVEWOP's course, and has been designated a Master Training Specialist. He volunteers his free time to the local Boy Scout and Cub Scout Troops as a leader and role model.

Petty Officer 1st Class Elizabeth Smith, a native of Jacksonville, N.C., joined the Navy in January 1991. A Dental Technician representing Naval Training Center, Great Lakes, Ill., she is part of the Administrative Department at Naval Dental Center, Great Lakes. Smith volunteered her time to implement the Canofile project, a new automated administrative computer system. She was also selected as the Command Sealant Watch Bill Coordinator for 36 personnel. When off-duty she volunteers her time to tutor fifth grade students, feed the homeless at First Corinthian Missionary Baptist Church, and twice a month delivers hot meals to senior citizens as part of the Catholic Charities Meals on Wheels program. She has been nominated for the Gallery Renken Award for outstanding performance and community service involvement.

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CNET Shore Sailor of the Year Nominees 5/5/5

Petty Officer 1st Class Brian Lee Wilcox, a native of Barstow, Calif., joined the Navy in May 1990. A Damage Controlman (Surface Warfare) representing Fleet Training Center, San Diego, he is the Damage Control/Fire Fighting Departmental Training Petty Officer and Leading Petty Officer at Fleet Training Center. Wilcox is a certified Emergency Medical Technician, a Master Training Specialist, and has been designated the Damage Control and Fire Fighting Department Career Counselor. In the community he coordinated and supervised a crew of 12 young adults and 14 children at Farb Middle School during the refurbishment of 10 pieces of playground equipment and three classrooms.

For more information regarding the CNET Shore Sailor of the Year, please contact Michele Harrison at the Chief of Naval Education and Training (CNET) Public Affairs Office at (850) 452-4859/4858.